

FISCAL NOTE

Bill #: SB0273

Title: Create 22nd judicial district & add judge to 11th & 20th districts

Primary

Sponsor: Reiny Jabs

Status: As introduced

Sponsor signature	Date	Dave Lewis, Budget Director	Date
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Fiscal Summary

	<u>FY2000 Difference</u>	<u>FY2001 Difference</u>
Expenditures:		
General Fund	\$123,000	\$287,500
Revenue:	\$0	\$0
Net Impact on General Fund Balance:	(\$123,000)	(\$287,500)

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	
X		Significant Local Gov. Impact		X	Technical Concerns
	X	Included in the Executive Budget	X		Significant Long-Term Impacts

Fiscal Analysis

ASSUMPTIONS:

1. The salary and benefits, travel expenses and education costs for a district court judge are paid by the state general fund. Staffing, office space and operating costs are paid by local government.
2. Salary and benefits for a district court judge are about \$108,000 per year, which is the rate set by law.
3. Salary and benefits are calculated as follows: FY 2000: 2 judges for 6 months; FY 2001: 2 judges for a full year, and 1 judge for 6 months
4. Initial training cost for a new judge is approximately \$2,000.
5. Annual travel expenses are estimated at \$5,000 per judge.
6. Initial purchase and set-up for a computer and software is a one-time cost of \$3,000 per judge.

FISCAL IMPACT:

	FY2000 <u>Difference</u>	FY2001 <u>Difference</u>
FTE	1.00	2.50
<u>Expenditures:</u>		
Personal Services	\$108,000	\$270,000
Operating Expenses	9,000	14,500
Equipment	<u>6,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>
TOTAL	\$123,000	\$287,500
<u>Funding:</u>		
General Fund (01)	\$123,000	\$287,500
<u>Net Impact to Fund Balance (Revenue minus Expenditure):</u>		
General Fund (01)	(\$123,000)	(\$287,500)

EFFECT ON COUNTY OR OTHER LOCAL REVENUES OR EXPENDITURES:

Local governments must provide staffing, office space, and operating expenses for the additional judges. These expenses are variable by location, depending on the current availability of office space, and whether a secretary is needed or can be shared, and whether a law clerk is needed. A fiscal note was prepared on the local government impact. Based upon an average, the note estimated local impact of \$120,000 in FY 2000, and \$280,000 in FY 2001.

LONG-RANGE IMPACTS:

The annual general fund expenditures for state government would be approximately \$340,000 in the FY 2002 and thereafter, whereas local government would expend about \$330,000 a year. An additional judicial district and 3 district court judges could reduce the backlog of court cases, speed up the judicial process and increase the efficiency of the court system as a whole.